

## David McClellan to Andrew Jackson

Western Choctaw Agency  
December 2d. 1829

Dear Sir

you will pardon me for taking the liberty to address you, but I feel it a duty that I owe to my Government. The cherokees are about to send another delegation to washington this winter to get more lands. they are the most intriguing set of people I have ever known. I am informed they wish the Genl Government to purchase all that tract of country lying on the Arkansas & Canadian Rivers which belongs to the choctaws for them. which if done, would completely take away from the choctaws all their best navigation and greatly invalidate the ballence of their country here, and probably put an end to their migration west of Mississippi. Those people (the cherokees) have been so much fostered by Government where will they find a stopping place. I hope shortly, they are so sanguine of getting the Government to purchase that tract of country for them, their agent is about building his Agency on the choctaw lands

I am of the opinion if I was authorised to go to the choctaw nation with funds, that I could bring a great many over to their lands west of the Mississippi. There are a great many of the choctaws settled in Louisiana that could be brought to their lands here if measures were taken for that purpose. would it not be advisable to instruct the Governor of Louisiana to order them out of that state to their lands on Red River and also the Governor of Arkansas to order those that are in the Territory to those lands also.

I reported myself to Majr. Duval the cherokee agent on the 12th. of September last and stated to him the necessity of having those white people that are settled on the choctaw lands removed and also the cherokees. they have caused a great deal of murmer and discord here, he promised me that he would give me orders to that amount, but I have never received such orders yet; I have discovered that an agent presiding over two different nations has a tendency to create a jealousy between the two tribes. If it would meet your approbation I would much rather have the controul of the choctaws myself, and not subject to the order of the cherokee agent, and so soon as there are Indians sufficient here to authorise the appointment of an agent I would be thankful for the appointment. I think I could manage those people so as to meet the views of Government as well as any other person, & that appointment would enable me to assisst the family of my brother (the late

agent) to get along through the days of their pilgrimage easier[.] I have the Honor to be Respectfully your Obt Servt

D. McClellan

Sub Agent for the choctaws west of mississippi

National Archives, Washington, D.C., Record Group 75, M234-185.